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but it gives the literary and historical associations of Derbyshire, and thus supplies the human interest that adds so much to the enjoyment of travel. Others may describe the country town of Ashbourne, one of the pleasantest in England. But Ashbourne not only stands at the gate of exquisite scenery ; it is also filled with the memories of great men. The book tells, for instance, of Dr. Samuel Johnson, who used to spend his holidays here with his lifelong friend Dr. Taylor, whose house is still the best private residence in the town. Dr. Taylor seems to have been a sly humourist; and we read that once when he expected the Duke of Devonshire to dine with him, "he gave orders that his Grace was to be driven twice round the grounds, so that he might imagine the garden was twice its real size."

The little town, also, has reminiscences of Tom Moore, of Samuel Rogers the banker-poet, and others. This was George Eliot's country, and those who wish to identify the places named in *Adam Bede* will not err, says Mr. Firth, if they interpret Oakbourne as Ashbourne, Snowfield as Wirksworth, Eagledale as Dovedale, Norbourne as Norbury.

It was in Derbyshire that Jean Jacques Rousseau began to write his famous *Confessions*. The wealth of reminiscence and anecdote concerning many interesting people will be appreciated most of all by those who visit England. The illustrations add greatly to the book.

Wirtschaftliche, naturgeschichtliche und klimatologische Abhandlungen aus Paraguay. Von H. Mangels. viii and 364 pp. and Illustrations from Photographs. Verlagsanstalt Dr. Fr. p. Datterer & Cie, Munich, 1904. (Price, M. 6.75.)

A number of German settlers in Paraguay undertook, in 1894, the publication of a weekly journal, *Paraguay Rundschau*, in the German language, in order to disseminate accurate information about the country. This journal still appears regularly in enlarged and improved form, and it is deservedly prized by all who are especially interested in the colonization of Paraguay and the development of its agricultural resources and commerce. Among the friends who contributed largely to its columns, though it could not afford to pay them for their work, was the author of this volume, long the German Consul at Asuncion.

The book is made up of the articles, revised and brought up to date, which Mr. Mangels originally wrote for the *Rundschau*. They are based upon his long experience and studies in the country, and bring together a large variety of information not yet easy to find ; for the literature relating to the geography and development of Paraguay is not yet rich.

A chapter is given to agriculture and colonization in Spanish South America and the various colonial undertakings in Paraguay, and in others the climate, soils, economic plants, most important forest trees, crops, rubber-planting, poisonous and other obnoxious plants, fertilizers, and many other topics are treated. These contributions make a desirable volume.

La Picardie et les Regions voisines : Artois, Cambrésis, Beauvaisis. Par Albert Demangeon. 496 pp., 34 half-tone Illustrations, 50 Maps, and Bibliography. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris, 1905. (Price, 12 frs.)

A geographical study of the Picardy Plain, in northeast France. Picardy, with the neighbouring regions, forms a geographic entity facing areas on all sides that are topographically distant from it. Its aspect seldom varies, for throughout the plain are found about the same relief—rivers, soils, fields, and villages. But if the plain

has no very strong contrasts, and few show-places with which to astonish the tourist, it has a quaint and pleasing expression of its own, largely stamped upon it by its people, who rescued the inundated coast from the sea, fixed its sands, regenerated the soil by ingenuity and toil, and gave to most of the settlements the character rather of agricultural market-places than of busy towns.

Dr. Demangeon has done good service by his careful study of so unique a region, whose natural or human characteristics he describes and in many cases explains. The pictures, all from his own photographs, are excellent, and the numerous small black-and-white maps are helpful to the text. On the coloured map of the Picardy coast a curious discordance is explained in this way: It was made from a Government map, the northern part of which was revised in 1898 and the southern part in 1890. The two parts thus brought together in one map differ widely in the positions assigned to sandbanks and channels in the Baie de Somme, proving great instability in the submarine contours of that bay.

Bericht über die neuere Literatur zur deutschen Landeskunde.

Bd. II (1900 und 1901). Im Auftrag der Zentralkommission für wissenschaftliche Landeskunde von Deutschland herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. Alfred Kirchhoff und Prof. Dr. Fritz Regel. viii and 413 pp., with Index of Authors. Ferdinand Hirt, Breslau, 1904. (Price, M. 12.)

The first volume of this bibliography was published in 1901, and contained titles of and comments upon 952 geographical works relating to Germany and published in the four years 1896-99. In the second volume now before us, Dr. Regel has succeeded Dr. K. Hassert as joint editor with Dr. Kirchhoff, large collaboration among German geographers has been secured, and the number of titles of books, monographs, maps, etc., has been increased to about 2,000, though the period covered is only two years. The book is not unwieldy, because the explanations and comments added to the titles are short as compared with those in the first volume. On the whole, this change is probably desirable, for it facilitates reference by reducing bulk. A bibliography is valuable in proportion to its completeness as a directory; and summaries of contents, and especially criticism, may usually be left to the review departments of the critical journals.

These 2,000 items are admirably arranged in chief classifications and groups under them. If we wish, for example, to learn what was written in 1900 and 1901 on the interior waters of Germany in all their phases, we find these topics grouped in "Die Gewässer" under the larger classification "Das Land," and find that these titles appear between pp. 86 and 87. The whole field is covered under 4 large divisions, with 25 subordinate groups.

It is easy to see how helpful such exhaustive compilations may be in the examination of any phase of German geography. They are essential in a country the study of whose geography has been so minute and many-sided. The Germans excel not only in applying their superior geographic training to the study of their own land, but also in the thorough classification of the knowledge they have gained, as exemplified in this bibliography.